

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Cavalier TV Sales and Service

2. Location

street & number 3414 Rhode Island Avenue (U.S. Route 1) ☐ not for publicationcity, town Mt. Rainier ☐ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Garland W. Blankenship

street & number 3414 Rhode Island Avenue telephone no.: (301) 529-2600

city, town Mt. Rainier state and zip code Maryland 20712

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 3168

street & number Main Street folio 615

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981

☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records M-NCPPC Historic Preservation Commission, Rm. 4010, C.A.B.

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #68-13-

-28

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

3414 Rhode Island Avenue is a two story frame commercial building with a rectangular plan and a bracketed and dentillated wooden cornice concealing a rear (north) sloping shed roof (see Slide #52). The building abuts its neighborhood to the west and is freestanding to the east. The main (south) and east facades are sheathed with non-historic shingles. The main facade contains a storefront with projecting plate glass display windows on brick bases flanking a centered, wood and glass single door entry. To the west of the storefront and elevated by several steps is a single wood door entry leading to the upper story. Above the storefront and projecting to the second story is a large neon sign. The second story has two widely spaced, small 1/1 sash double-hung windows with decorative metal shutters, all of which appear to be modern replacements.

Although the facade has been unsympathetically modernized with, incompatible materials, the cornice and storefront configuration (if not the materials) appear to be early or original. The nature and condition of any existing historic fabric beneath the present modern facade is not discernable. The building maintains a scale and relationship to the streetscape consistent with other early 20th century buildings in the survey area.

8. Significance

Survey No. P. G. #68-13-28

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1909

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

CONTRIBUTING

The two story building at 3414 Rhode Island Avenue (Block 1, west half of Lot 13, Rhode Island Avenue Addition to Mt. Rainier) contributes to the early 20th century character of the survey area as an example of the small-scale mixed-use construction erected before World War I. Although the exterior sheathing and fenestration have been modernized, the building retains an early scale and character and what is probably an original cornice. Like several other buildings along 34th Street and Rhode Island Avenue the building was erected close to the street and contains a storefront at the sidewalk and living quarters above.

The present building appears to be the original improvement on the western half of Lot 13. It was apparently erected by 1909 when assessment records first indicate an improvement valued at \$800.¹ The improvement was made by James H. and Garnette A. Dungan who had purchased this portion of Lot 13 from Messers. Bigelow, Spalding and Rogers in 1906.² A 1921 Sanborn Insurance Company map indicates at that time, the building housed a grocery.³ The building was then owned by Edward S. White who had purchased 3414 in 1919 (see Chain of Title). White operated a grocery as an adjunct to his hay and feed business located next door at 3416-3418 Rhode Island Avenue.⁴ White operated the two adjacent businesses and lived above 3414 until around 1930, when he sold the west half of Lot 13 to Otto and Mary Gerhardt. The Gerhardts sold the building in 1957 to a group of people including Garland Blankenship who has operated a "television sales and service" business from the storefront since that year.⁵ Blankenship presently resides in the upstairs apartment and has individually owned the property since 1965 (see Chain of Title).

Notes

1 Prince George's County Assessment Records, E.D. 17, 1909, p. 135.

2 Prince George's County Land Records, 30:270.

3 Sanborn Insurance Map, 1921, p. 6.

4 Polk's Suburban Directory, 1912; 1917; 1927-1928; 1930-1931.

5 Interview with Garland Blankenship, October 22, 1987.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #68-13--

-28

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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G

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B

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Zone Easting NorthingD

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F

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

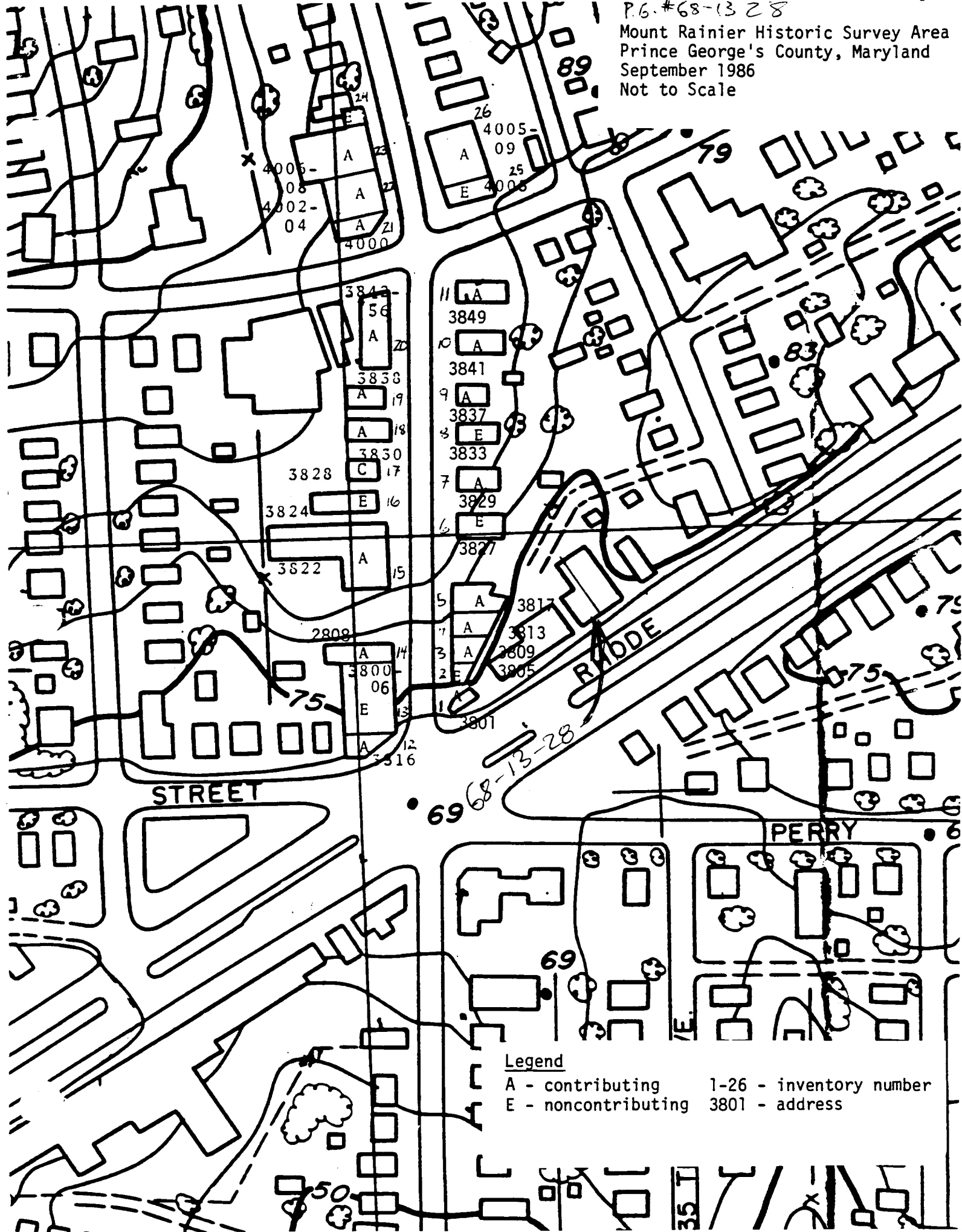
name/title Howard S. Berger, Consultantorganization Historic Preservation Commissiondate March 1988street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drivetelephone 952-4609city or town Upper Marlborostate Maryland 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Mount Rainier Historic Survey Area
Prince George's County, Maryland
September 1986
Not to Scale



A - contributing 1-26 - inventory number
E - noncontributing 3801 - address

